

## CHAPTEE XX

### GREAT WELCOME IN NEW YORK—ATTITUDE TOWARD TAFT

KOOSEVELT arrived in New York from his European travels on June' 18,1910, receiving a truly royal welcome. Nothing approaching it had ever been given a private citizen coming back to his native land after a brief, absence abroad. He had been absent only a little more than a year. A greater part of that time had been passed in the wilds of Africa, and while only occasional and brief references to his doings had been published in the newspapers, his own account of his hunting exploits had been in process of publication monthly in *Scribner's Magazme* since October, 1909, under the title of "African Game Trails."

While he was in Europe, his various public addresses had been published widely and commanded extremely warm approval in all quarters, especially in those journals that had been his severest critics while he was in public life. His presence as special envoy of the United States at the funeral of King Edward, by request of President Taft, had been generally commended and he had figured in the press accounts of the ceremonies on that occasion. Beyond this he had done nothing to keep himself in the minds of the people. Yet when his return was announced the whole country joined in welcoming him home. A committee of citizens, headed by the mayor of the city, was formed to arrange a public reception and delegations and representatives of civic and other societies from many cities and states went to New York to join in it. The

steamer upon  
which he arrived was met in the harbor by a  
great naval  
parade, and the harbor itself was crowded  
with pleasure  
yachts, excursion steamers and merchant  
craft of all kinds,